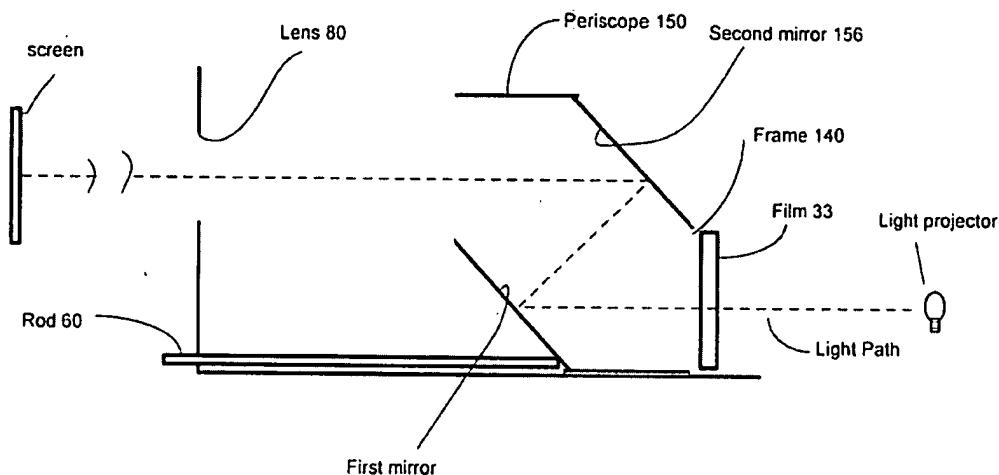


Remarks:

Applicant appreciates the allowance of claims 12-19. Applicant also appreciates the Examiner's time in a telephone conference on April 7, 2009, in which Applicant's attorney sought to understand the Office Action better so she could prepare a clear response. No agreement was reached regarding the claims in this case.

Several patents were used as a basis for rejecting claims 1-11.

U.S. Patent No. 6,702,445 "Meng-Suen" teaches a projector that uses a periscope and mirrors to increase the focal length of the projected image. As shown in the sketch below, light enters from the right side, passes through the film 33 and through an opening in the frame 140, is reflected off of a first mirror and then a second mirror 156, and then out the lens 80 to the external screen.



Schematic 1

U.S. Patent Application 2003/0174292 "White" teaches a mechanism that allows two remote users to communicate visually with each other. Looking at Figure 6 of White, there is a camera 3 and a projector 6. There is a screen 7, and there are two mirrors 9, 2, with the mirror 2 being a two-way mirror. As described beginning in paragraph 77, the projector 6 projects the image of the remote user onto the mirror 9, which reflects that image up to the screen 7. The local user 1 looks forward toward the two-way mirror 2, which reflects the image projected on the screen 7 so the reflected image appears to be in the position 10. The image that appears to be in position 10 is of the remote user, who appears

to be sitting in the chair 11. The camera 3 is then looking directly at the local user 1 and is projecting that person's image through a projector in the same type of set-up at the remote location. **"This configuration results in an apparent eye contact with the image of the remote person because the line of sight of the remote person is matched by the line of sight of the camera 3."** There is a matte black panel 13 covering the projector 6 and the table 15 to prevent the camera 3 from picking up the images of the table and projector.

U.S. Patent 3,510,657 "Mangiaracina" teaches a box with several mirrors that can be raised or lowered to be in the line of the light beam or out of the line in order to direct the light beam in the desired direction. For example, if the user wants to use the slide projector 18 and the color television camera 19, he would raise the mirrors 14, 15 so the beam of light would shine straight through. If the user wants to use the movie projector 17 and the B&W television camera 21, he would raise the mirror 14 and lower the mirror 13 so the beam of light would go from the movie projector 17, be reflected off of the mirror 13, and the mirrors 24 and 25 to the camera 21. This reference has no two-way mirrors.

U.S. Patent 3,718,760 "Patels" teaches a system for reproducing motion pictures. It has mirrors and states in column 3, lines 8-10: *"It may be desirable to provide for an adjustment of the mirrors 11 and 17 to enable an exact alignment of the image on the camera tube 3."* However, Patels does not teach any mechanism for adjusting the mirrors.

Claim 1 is as follows:

An image transfer device, comprising:
a box including walls defining an inlet opening and an outlet opening;
a screen;

a first mirror, said first mirror being a two-way mirror and having first and second sides, wherein said openings, screen and first mirror are aligned such that, when an image is projected through said inlet opening and is reflected off of said first mirror onto said screen to form a screen image, the screen image can be viewed by looking through both said outlet opening and said first mirror.

The Office Action rejects this claim, saying that the Meng-Suen reference comprises a box including walls defining an inlet opening and an outlet opening, a screen, and a first mirror, wherein the openings, screen and first mirror are aligned such that, when an image is projected through the inlet opening and is reflected off the first mirror onto the screen to form a screen image, the screen image can be viewed by looking through both the outlet opening and the first mirror.

In the telephone conference, the Examiner stated that the inlet opening is the opening in the wall 140. The outlet opening is 80. The screen is the second

mirror 156. The first mirror is the mirror below the opening in the periscope, which is labeled as first mirror in the schematic above.

If that is the case, then the screen image (the image on the mirror 156) cannot be viewed by looking through both the outlet opening and the first mirror as stated in the Office Action. The image on the screen 156 can be viewed by looking through the outlet opening 80. However, it is not possible to look through the first mirror, both because the first mirror is only a one-way mirror and because it has a solid wall on one side. Therefore, the statement in the Office Action that was used as a basis for making the rejection is incorrect.

Even if the first mirror were a two-way mirror, it would not be possible to look through it, because there is a solid wall behind it. Even if it were changed to be a two-way mirror without a solid wall behind it, which is not taught or suggested, it would not be possible to view the image on the screen 156 by looking through both the outlet opening 80 and the first mirror, because the first mirror is not properly aligned with the outlet opening 80 and because, even if you could look from the outlet 80 through the first mirror, all you would see would be the back wall of the periscope 150, not the screen 156.

Thus, even if the Meng-Suen reference were modified to make the first mirror a two-way mirror and to eliminate the wall in the periscope to allow light to pass through the two-way mirror and beyond, which is not taught or suggested by the art, the resulting product still would not meet the limitations of claim 1.

The Office Action also states that Mangiaracina provides an image transfer device wherein when an image is projected through the inlet opening and is reflected off of the first mirror onto the screen to form a screen image, the screen image can be viewed by looking through both the outlet opening and the first mirror. Mangiaracina has no two-way mirrors, so it is not possible to look through any of the mirrors in that reference. Thus, again the statement in the Office Action is incorrect. It also is not clear what the Examiner considers to be a screen in Mangiaracina.

In any case, the statements that are being made as a basis for the rejection are incorrect and unsupported.

Claim 2 recites:

An image transfer device as recited in claim 1, and further comprising a means for controlling the tilt of said first mirror to enable centering of an image on said screen.

The Patels reference states in column 3, lines 8-10 that it may be desirable to provide for an adjustment of the mirrors, but it does not teach any adjustment means. Simply stating that adjustment of the mirrors would be

desirable, without teaching any particular adjustment mechanism, is not sufficient to serve as a basis for obviousness.

Claim 3 recites:

An image transfer device as recited in claim 2, wherein said means for controlling the tilt includes a first biasing means to urge the tilting of said first mirror in a first direction, and a second biasing means to urge the tilting of said first mirror in a second direction.

The Patels reference does not teach any biasing means for adjusting the position of the mirror.

Claim 4 recites:

An image transfer device as recited in claim 3, wherein said first biasing means comprises a spring, and said second biasing means comprises a screw.

The Patels reference does not teach the use of a spring for tilting the mirror in a first direction and a screw for tilting the mirror in a second direction, as it does not teach any biasing means at all or any adjustment mechanism at all.

Claim 7 recites:

An image transfer device as recited in claim 5, wherein said first and second mirrors and said screen are located inside said box so as to define a first light path, which extends through said inlet opening and onto said second mirror, a second light path, which extends from said second mirror onto said first mirror, and a third light path, which extends from said first mirror and onto said screen such that said first and third light paths are substantially parallel to each other.

The Examiner has stated in the phone interview that the second mirror 156 of Meng-Suen functions as the screen for purposes of reading claim 1 on the reference. If that is the case, then there is a first light path, which extends through the inlet opening and onto the mirror below the opening in the periscope, but, as stated by the Examiner as a basis for rejecting claim 1, that is the first mirror, not the second mirror. It cannot be both the first mirror with respect to claim 1 and the second mirror with respect to claim 7, which includes the limitations of claim 1. Then there is a second light path that extends from the mirror below the opening in the periscope (the first mirror) to the screen 156, but then there is not a third light path extending from the first mirror to the screen as claimed. The path from the first mirror to the screen cannot be both the second and the third light paths. Thus, claim 7 recites an invention that is both novel and unobvious in view of the cited art.

Claim 8 adds a fourth light path, which also is not taught or suggested.

Claim 11 recites:

An image transfer device as recited in claim 10, and further comprising:
a projector platform aligned with said inlet opening, including means for adjusting
the pitch and roll of said projector platform; and
a recorder platform aligned with said outlet opening, including means for
adjusting the pitch and yaw of said recorder platform.

The section of Meng-Suen, col. 9, lines 7-27, which was cited as a basis
for showing the elements of this claim, does not show them. That section states:

Thus, in the present embodiment, light is projected from light source 78 out of the semi-spherical reflector 68 toward the film assembly 36, with the semi-spherical reflector 68 being substantially aligned with the frame 140. The light passes through the film 33 as the film 33 is scrolled horizontally about the rollers 40 by the action of the motor 46. The light then passes through the frame 140, which defines the shape of the projected beam (and thus the projected image), before entering the periscope 150 through the first aperture 152. After the light beam is shifted by the first and second mirrors, it exits the periscope 150 through the second aperture 158. The light beam then passes through the lens 80, with the distance between the lens 80 and the film 33 in the film path being variable with the movement of the film assembly 36 along the track 39. The lens 80 focuses the light beam so as to be projected on a target surface to form the images from the film 33. The formed target images scroll across the target area as the film 33 is moved by the motor 46. The images may be focused by sliding the post 60 in and out of the housing 12 to vary the distance between the film assembly 36 and the lens 80.

This reference does not teach a projector platform, including means for adjusting the pitch and roll of the projector platform, and a recorder platform aligned with the outlet opening, including means for adjusting the pitch and yaw of the recorder platform as stated in the Office Action. It also does not teach a motor that contributes to means for adjusting the claimed pitch and roll and pitch and yaw. The only motor which is referred to in that section is the motor 46, which serves the function of advancing the film, not the function of adjusting the position of a projector platform. Meng-Suen does not even contemplate using a recorder but rather involves projecting an image onto a screen. This has already been explained in an earlier response, but the Patent Office has repeated the same rejection without pointing out the claimed elements in the cited reference and without responding to Applicant's explanation.

The Examiner stated in the interview that he would conduct still another search upon receiving this response, as if the Patent Office is determined to reject this application again despite the fact that it has not found references that

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support a rejection, after three opportunities to do so. If the Patent Office intends to reject these claims again, Applicant respectfully requests that the Office Action clearly point to each of the elements in the references and clearly explain what modification is being taught by what feature in each reference as a basis for the rejection rather than repeating the improper practice of making vague, unsupported rejections.

It is not fair to the Applicant for the Patent Office to repeatedly make vague, unsupported rejections that require substantial amounts of time and money to prepare a response. This creates a situation of delay and harassment and wearing down the Applicant rather than providing a proper, substantive examination of a patent application. After three Office Actions rejecting the same set of claims, if the Patent Office still cannot find better references than have already been found and still cannot make a clear rejection based on such references, then it is time to allow this case.

Since all the claims recite an invention that is both novel and unobvious in view of the prior art, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of all the pending claims. If there are any other problems, Applicant's attorney would appreciate a phone call from the Examiner to help expedite their resolution.

Respectfully submitted,



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